Al CONT'

wherein

[Q is selected from the group consisting of N, O and S;]

L is C, CH, $(CH_2)_1$, of $\{(CH_2)_1 - Y - (CH_2)_j\}_k$, wherein Y is selected from the group consisting of CH_2 , an ether, a polyether, an amide, a polyamide, an ester, a sulfide, a urea, a thiourea, a guanidyl, a carbamoyl, a carbonate, a phosphate, a sulfate, a sulfoxide, an imine, a carbonyl, and a secondary amino group and wherein Y is optionally substituted by $-X_1-L^2-X_2-Z$ or -Z;

 R_1 - R_6 , independently of one another, are selected from the group consisting of H, $-(CH_2)_p$ -D-Z, an alkyl, an alkenyl, an aryl and an alkyl or alkyl ether optionally substituted by one or more of an alcohol, an aminoalcohol, an amine, an amide, an ether, a polyether, a polyamide, an ester, a mercaptan, an alkylthio, a urea, a thiourea, a guanidyl, or a carbamoyl group, and wherein at least one of R_1 , R_3 , R_4 and R_6 is a straight chain or branched, cyclic, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl or aryl group having from about 6 to about 64 carbon atoms; and R_1 and R_4 or R_3 and R_6 may optionally be covalently linked with each other, with Y or with L when L is C or CH to form a cyclic moiety;

SUB BS

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[Z is selected from the group consisting of amine, spermiyl, carboxyspermiyl, guanidyl, spermidinyl, putricinyl, diaminoalkyl, pyridyl, piperidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, polyamine, amino acid, peptide, and protein;]

 X_1 and X_2 , independently of one another, are selected from the group consisting of NH, O, S, alkylene, and arylene; and

L' is selected from the group consisting of alkyl, alkenylene, alkynylene, arylene, alkylene ether, and polyether[;

D is Q or a bond;

 A_1 and A_2 , independently of one another, are selected from the group consisting of CH_2O , CH_2S , CH_2NH , C(O), C(NH), C(S) and $(CH_2)_1$;

X is a physiologically acceptable anion;

m, n, r, s, u, v, w and y are 0 or 1) with the proviso that when both m and n are 0 at least one of r, s, u and y is other than 0;

i, j, k, l, p and t are integers from 0 to about 100;

q is an integer from 1 to about 1000; and

a is the number of positive charge divided by the valence of the anion].

A2 SUB B26)

94. (Amended)

The compound as claimed in any one of claims 1, [2,] 5,[6, 9, 11,

12, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 29, 32, 41, 42, 45, 46, 48, 49, 55, 56, 63, 64, 70, 71, 77, 78,] 85,[86, 87,

88,] 89,[90, 91, 92] and 93, wherein said cyclic group is a cholesteryl group.

A3 SUB B29]

101. (Amended)

A composition comprising one or more compounds of any one of

claims 1, 37, 38, 85, [to] 93, 95 and 97.

A3 Cont Sub B29

102. (Amended) A composition comprising one or more compounds of any one of claims 1, 37, 38, 85, [to] 93, 95 and 97 and at least one additional component selected from the group consisting of a cell, cells, a cell culture, a cell culture media, a neutral lipid, a nucleic acid, and a transfection enhancer.

A4 SUB 130

104. (Amended) A lipid aggregate comprising one or more compounds of any one of claims 1, 37, 38, 85, [to] 93, 95 and 97.

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107. (Amended) A kit comprising one or more compounds of any one of claims 1, 37, 38, 85, [to] 93.95 and 97 and at least one additional component selected from the group consisting of a cell, cells, a cell culture media, a nucleic acid, a transfection enhancer and instructions for transfecting a cell or cells.

SUB B31

108. (Amended) A method for introducing a polyanion into a cell or cells, said method comprising forming a liposome from a positively charged compound of any one or claims 1, 37, 38, 85, [to] 93, 95 and 97, contacting the liposome with a polyanion to form a positively-charged polyanion-liposome complex and incubating the complex with a cell or cells.

109. (Amended) A method for introducing a biologically active substance into a cell, said method comprising forming a liposome of a compound of any one of claims 1, 37, 38, 85, [to] 93, 95 and 97 and a biologically active substance and incubating the liposome with a cell or cell culture.